

## **FALL 2025**

### **Course Syllabus**

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

*Meeting Days:* Tuesday/Thursday

*Instructor:* Thomas Bolinger, J.D.

*Meeting Times:* Section 1: 8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  
Section 2: 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

*Office Phone:* (619) 283 7011

*Class Room:* FSB104

*Email:* [tbolinge@pointloma.edu](mailto:tbolinge@pointloma.edu)

***Final Exam:* Section 1: 12/18/25 at 7:30 a.m.**  
***Section 2: 12/16/25 at 10:30 a.m.***

*Office Location and Hours:* By Appointment

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#### **PLNU Mission** **To Teach – To Shape – To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU) exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued and holiness is a way of life.

#### **Fermanian School of Business Mission** **Character – Professionalism – Excellence – Relationships – Commitment – Innovation**

As members of a vital Christian community, we strive to provide high quality business programs that equip students to make a positive impact in their workplace and community by connecting purpose to practice.

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**Course Description:** This course provides a comprehensive overview of legal issues encountered in business. Topics include the legal system, contracts, torts, product liability, intellectual and property rights, cyber crime, fraud, organizational forms, corporate formation and finance, securities law, business ethics and corporate governance. *This course is designed to enable students to identify and analyze legal issues that may arise in a business setting.*

#### **Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs):**

1. Define various legal terminology as it relates to business (PLO 1).
2. Exhibit an understanding of various legal concepts, including: contracts, torts, product liability, intellectual and property rights, cyber crime, fraud, organizational forms, corporate formation and finance, securities law, business ethics and corporate governance (PLO 1).
3. Examine legal solutions in hypothetical business situations (PLO 2).
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical considerations of various legal situations in business (PLO 4).

**Couse Credit Hour Information:** In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a three (3) unit class delivered over sixteen (16) weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of thirty-seven and one half (37.5) participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated one hundred twenty (120) total hours meeting the CLOs. The times estimates are provided in the Canvas modules.

#### **Course Materials Required:**

1. Clarkson & Miller, *Business Law Text and Cases*, 16<sup>th</sup> Edition, Cengage Learning, 2024.
2. Other articles and/or documents as assigned.

This course is part of our course material delivery program, LomaBooks. The bookstore will provide each student with a convenient package containing all required physical materials; all digitally delivered materials will be integrated into Canvas. Students should have received an email from the bookstore confirming the list of materials that will be provided for each student's courses and asking them to select how they would like to receive any printed components (in-store pick up or home delivery). If students have not done so already, they must confirm their

fulfillment preference so the bookstore can prepare the student's materials.

For more information about LomaBooks, please go: [HERE](#)

### **Assessment and Grading:**

1. Student performance is based upon the following scale:

| <u>Percent</u> | <u>Letter Grade</u> | <u>Performance</u>                        |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 90.0 – 100.0   | A- to A             | Exceptional Scholarship                   |
| 80.0 – 89.0    | B- to B+            | Superior Scholarship                      |
| 70.0 – 79.0    | C- to C+            | Satisfactory Scholarship                  |
| 60.0 – 69.0    | D- to D+            | Marginal Scholarship                      |
| < 59.0         | F                   | Unsatisfactory Scholarship/ Failing Grade |

Class grade is based upon the following Assignments and Exams: (Lowest Exam Score is Dropped.)

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Weekly Open Book Questions        | 20%        |
| Three Writing Assignments         | 20%        |
| Five Exams (Including Final Exam) | <u>60%</u> |
| Total                             | 100%       |

2. Additional information regarding student performance:

- a. **Class Participation:** The success of each student in this course is directly related to the quality of the participation. Students should contribute to discussions on a daily basis. Class participation will be based upon each student's contribution to discussions, including input or questions regarding the textbook material. In addition, students should be prepared to answer questions, and participate in other in-class assignments as that arise. Class participation will also be based upon student attendance and preparation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the PLNU Undergraduate Academic Catalog.
- b. **Exams:** Four (4) scheduled examinations and one (1) final examination will be administered. Every student is to be present for the scheduled examinations and the final exam at the scheduled time. **No makeup exams will be given without prior permission.** A makeup exam will be provided only for absences officially excused by the University provost or for emergencies completely beyond a student's control, such as a documented illness or injury. Students must coordinate any conflict with one of these exams with the faculty member as soon as the student discovers it, preferably not later than 48 hours prior to the exam.
- c. **Final Examination Policy:** Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.
- d. **Incomplete & Late Assignments:** All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by or before the dates and times posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

### **Class Policies:**

1. **Professionalism:** Students are expected to hold the highest levels of professionalism, including integrity, honesty, respectfulness, punctuality and mature leadership. Exemplary behavior is expected in this classroom.

2. **PLNU Academic Honesty Policy:** Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when, in reality, they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See Academic Policies for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information
3. **PLNU Copyright Policy:** PLNU, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the U.S. Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.
4. **PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy:** Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than ten (10) percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed twenty (20) percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the University drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation.
5. **PLNU Recording Notification:** In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel. Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.
6. **Schedule and Other Changes:** The information in this syllabus is subject to change. Any such changes will be announced and/or communicated via Canvas or e-mail.
7. **E-Mail:** Assignments, announcements, changes to this syllabus and other communications from the faculty member, from time to time, may be made via the student's e-mail address and/or Canvas. Students are required to review their email and Canvas announcements daily.
8. **Mobile Phones:** The use of mobile phones, including phone calls, texting or any other purposes, is not allowed in the classroom during class meetings and examinations. Please keep mobile phones turned off and out of sight.
9. **Use of Technology:** In order to be successful in this course, students must meet the minimum technology and system requirements. Please refer to the Technology and System Requirements information.
  - a. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers, microphone, or webcams compatible with their computer available to use for any online or hybrid classes. Please note that any course with online proctored exams requires a computer with a camera (tablets are not compatible) to complete exams online.
  - b. Problems with technology do not relieve students of the responsibility of participating, turning in assignments, or completing class work.
10. **Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI):** The use of (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, iA Writer, Marmot, Botowski, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc.) is prohibited in this course for any aspect of your work, including idea generation, drafting, editing, or final submissions. This course is designed to assess your independent critical thinking, writing, and research skills without the assistance of AI technologies. Violations of this policy will be treated as breaches of academic integrity.
11. **Dropping the Course:** It is the student's responsibility to maintain his or her class schedule. Should the need arise to drop this course (personal emergencies, poor performance, etc.), the student has the responsibility to follow through (provided the drop date meets the stated calendar deadline established by the University), not the faculty member. Simply ceasing to attend this course or failing to follow through for a change of registration (drop/add) may result in a grade of F on the official transcript.
12. **PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy:** PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, service, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center ([EAC@pointloma.edu](mailto:EAC@pointloma.edu) or 619-849-2533). Once a student's eligibility for accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. Professors will be able to view a student's approved accommodations through Accommodate. PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes. Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All

determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodations.

**Spiritual Care:** Please be aware that PLNU strives to be a place where students grow as whole persons. To this end, the institution provides resources for all students to encounter God and to grow in their Christian faith. If a student has questions, has prayer requests, or desires to meet with the chaplain, they are encouraged to contact the Office of Spiritual Development.

| MTG # | DATE  | CHAPTER    | TOPIC                                        | ASSIGNMENT(S)                                        | DUE DATE |
|-------|-------|------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1     | 9/2   |            | Class Introduction/Course Expectations       | First writing assignment                             | 9/11     |
| 2     | 9/4   | Chapter 1  | Law and Legal Reasoning                      | Two open book questions                              | 9/4      |
| 3     | 9/9   | Chapter 4  | Courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution    | Two open book questions                              | 9/11     |
| 4     | 9/11  | Chapter 5  | Court Procedures                             | Two open book questions                              | 9/11     |
| 5     | 9/16  | Chapter 2  | Business and the Constitution                | Two open book questions                              | 9/16     |
| 6     | 9/18  |            | <b>EXAM 1 – Chapters 1, 4, 5, 2</b>          | <b>N/A</b>                                           |          |
| 7     | 9/23  | Chapter 6  | Tort Law                                     | Two open book questions                              | 9/25     |
| 8     | 9/25  | Chapter 7  | Strict Liability and Product Liability       | Two open book questions                              | 9/25     |
| 9     | 9/30  | Chapter 8  | Intellectual Property Rights                 | Two open book questions                              | 10/2     |
| 10    | 10/2  | Chapter 10 | Criminal Law and Cyber Crime                 | Two open book questions                              | 10/2     |
| 11    | 10/7  |            | <b>EXAM 2 – Chapters 6, 7, 8, 10</b>         | <b>N/A</b>                                           |          |
| 12    | 10/9  | Chapter 11 | Contracts: Nature and Terminology            | Two open book questions                              | 10/9     |
| 13    | 10/14 | Chapter 12 | Agreement in Traditional and E-Contracts     | Two open book questions                              | 10/16    |
| 14    | 10/16 | Chapter 13 | Consideration                                | Two open book questions                              | 10/16    |
| 15    | 10/21 | Chapter 14 | Capacity and Legality                        | Two open book questions                              | 10/21    |
| 16    | 10/28 |            | <b>EXAM 3 – Chapters 11, 12, 13, 14</b>      | <b>N/A</b>                                           |          |
| 17    | 10/30 | Chapter 15 | Mistakes, Fraud and Voluntary Consent        | Two open book questions                              | 10/30    |
| 18    | 11/4  | Chapter 16 | The Writing Requirement in Our Digital World | Two open book questions<br>Second writing assignment | 10/30    |
| 19    | 11/6  | Chapter 17 | Third Party Rights                           | Two open book questions                              | 11/6     |
| 20    | 11/11 | Chapter 18 | Performance and Discharge                    | Two open book questions                              | 11/6     |
| 21    | 11/13 | Chapter 19 | Breach of Contract and Remedies              | Two open book questions                              | 11/11    |
| 22    | 11/18 |            | <b>EXAM 4 – Chapters 15, 16, 17, 18, 19</b>  | <b>N/A</b>                                           |          |

|    |                    |                                                                                         |                                                               |                                                     |       |
|----|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 23 | 11/20              | Chapter 36                                                                              | Small Businesses and Franchises                               | Two open book questions                             | 11/20 |
| 24 | 11/25              | Chapter 37                                                                              | All Forms of Partnerships                                     | Two open book questions                             | 11/20 |
| 25 | 12/2               | Chapter 38                                                                              | Limited Liability Companies and Special Business Forms        | Two open book question                              | 11/25 |
| 26 | 12/4               | Chapter 39                                                                              | Corporate Formation and Financing                             | Two open book questions                             | 12/4  |
| 27 | 12/9               | Chapter 40                                                                              | Corporate Directors, Officers and Shareholders                | Two open book questions<br>Third Writing Assignment | 12/4  |
| 28 | 12/11              | Chapter 42                                                                              | Investor Protection, Insider Trading and Corporate Governance | Two open book questions                             | 12/9  |
|    | 12/18<br><br>12/16 | Section 1 -<br>7:30 a.m. -<br>10:00a.m.<br><br>Section 2 -<br>10:30 a.m.<br>-1:00 p.m.. | FINAL EXAM – Chapters 36, 37, 38, 39,<br>40, 42               | N/A                                                 |       |